

intently on a single issue: the qimmijjaqtanunig (the killing of many Inuit sled dogs).

The Inuit of the Qikiqtani (Baffin) region chose to pursue a truth commission to reclaim our own history, to give voice to our unique perspectives of that history and to seek saimaqtiginiq (peace after a conflict).

We find that others continue to speak about our experiences without consulting us. Through this practice — whether intended or not — we remain the subject of history, rather than its authors; spoken for, rather than speakers of, our own uniquely intimate experience of that history.

The work of our commission, for example, is not focused exclusively on the qimmii-

jaqtanunig, yet some Canadian academics and most media continue to insist that it is, despite our repeated public statements to the contrary.

This is why the broader historical context is so important for us as a people: in and of itself, one single decision about sled dogs or any other matter did not lead to the situation in which we find ourselves living today. Similarly, one single historical finding, truth, or recommendation will not lead us out of this reality toward saimaqtiginiq.

As the editor of a history journal, surely you can agree that history should never be reduced to a single issue; do not do us the disservice of allowing others to

do so on our behalf.

When the final report of the Qikiqtani Truth Commission is released, I hope that *Canada's History* will ensure that Qikiqtani voices, as well as the correct facts, are presented in any discussions of the commission's findings and legacy.

MADELEINE REDFERN,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
QIKIQTANI TRUTH COMMISSION

Tuning in to history

As a longtime resident of Niagara Falls, Ontario, I was especially interested in your article about Reginald Fessenden, "Radio Pioneer," that appears in your June-July 2010 issue.

Another Canadian connection to Fessenden, not mentioned in the article, is that from 1876 to 1893 the Fessenden family lived in what is now Niagara Falls, where Reginald's father was an Anglican clergyman. As a boy, Reginald loved to swim in the Niagara River just below the falls and explore caves in the gorge wall.

You have a fine magazine. Keep up the good work.

SHERMAN ZAVITZ
OFFICIAL HISTORIAN
CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO

Errata

[Editor's Note: A photo of Guglielmo Marconi was mistakenly used in the June-July 2010 *Currents* section to represent radio pioneer Reginald Fessenden. In the April-May 2010 issue, the Musqueam Nation was mistakenly identified as the Cowichan Nation in a sidebar to the article "Saving David Thompson," while Prince Rupert was misidentified in the main story as the location where explorer Alexander Mackenzie famously reached the Pacific. The actual location was modern-day Bella Coola, B.C. We regret the errors.]

Canada's History welcomes reader's comments. Email us at editors@historysociety.ca or write to *Canada's History*, Bryce Hall, Main Floor, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3B 2E9. Please include your address and daytime phone number. Letters may be edited for clarity or length.

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